

What is claimed is:

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5 1. In a computer system having a graphical user interface including a display and a user interface selection device, a method of maintaining a single window interface, comprising:

receiving a request to open a second browser window while a first browser window is displayed;
ignoring the request if the request was not initiated in response to a user action;
and
10 opening the second browser window if the request was initiated in response to a user action.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising opening the second browser window as a full-screen browser window if the request was initiated by a user action.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising superimposing the full-screen browser window on the first browser window.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising opening the second browser window after receiving a load finished event for the first browser window and before receiving an unload event for the first browser window.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising opening the second browser window in a second browser instance distinct from a first browser instance in which the first browser window is opened.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising modifying the content of one of the first and second browser windows in response to an event occurring in one of the first and second browser instances.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first browser window contains a plurality of frames, wherein the request to open a second browser window is associated with one of the plurality of frames, and wherein the method further comprises opening the second browser window after loading the frame associated with the request to open
5 the second browser window.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising opening the second browser window after loading all of the frames of the first browser window.

10 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising suppressing a request to open a dialog box until a browser window associated with the request to open the dialog box is displayed.

15 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising suppressing generation of a sound associated with a browser window that is not displayed.

20 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a request to close a browser window;
closing the browser window if another browser window is open; and
ignoring the request if no other browser window is open.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining, in a browser history, a history of transitions between the first and second browser windows.

25 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising building the browser history from a history of a displayed browser window.

30 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising building the browser history from histories of a set of simultaneously open browser windows.

15. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

detecting, in the browser history, a transition between two simultaneously open browser windows; and

in response to the detected transition, hiding one of the first and second browser windows and displaying a different one of the first and second browser windows.

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16. In a computer system having a graphical user interface including a display and a user interface selection device, a method of maintaining a single window interface, comprising the steps of:

10 receiving a request to open a second browser window while a first browser window is displayed;

ignoring the request if the request was initiated during either loading or unloading of a page in the first browser window; and

opening the second browser window if the request was initiated after loading and before unloading of a page in the first browser window.

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17. The method of claim 16, further comprising opening the second browser window as a full-screen browser window if the request was initiated after loading and before unloading of a page in the first browser window.

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18. The method of claim 17, further comprising superimposing the full-screen browser window on the first browser window.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising opening the second browser window after receiving a load finished event for the first browser window and before receiving an unload event for the first browser window.

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20. The method of claim 16, further comprising opening the second browser window in a second browser instance distinct from a first browser instance in which the first browser window is opened.

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21. The method of claim 20, further comprising communicating information between the first and second browser windows in response to an event occurring in one of the first and second browser instances.

5 22. The method of claim 16, wherein the first browser window contains a plurality of frames, wherein the request to open a second browser window is associated with one of the plurality of frames, and wherein the method further comprises opening the second browser window after loading the frame associated with the request to open the second browser window.

10 23. The method of claim 22, further comprising opening the second browser window after loading all of the frames of the first browser window.

15 24. The method of claim 16, further comprising suppressing a request to open a dialog box until a browser window associated with the request to open the dialog box is displayed.

20 25. The method of claim 16, further comprising suppressing generation of a sound associated with a browser window that is not displayed.

25 26. The method of claim 16, further comprising:
receiving a request to close a browser window;
closing the browser window if another browser window is open; and
ignoring the request if no other browser window is open.

27. The method of claim 16, further comprising maintaining, in a browser history, a history of transitions between the first and second browser windows.

30 28. The method of claim 27, further comprising building the browser history from a history of a displayed browser window.

29. The method of claim 27, further comprising building the browser history from histories of a set of simultaneously open browser windows.

30. The method of claim 27, further comprising:
5 detecting, in the browser history, a transition between two simultaneously open browser windows; and
in response to the detected transition, hiding one of the first and second browser windows and displaying a different one of the first and second browser windows.

10 31. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable modules comprising a browser module, configured to:

receive a request to open a second browser window while a first browser window is displayed;

ignore the request if the request was not initiated in response to a user action; and

15 open the second browser window if the request was initiated in response to a user action.

20 32. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window as a full-screen browser window if the request was initiated by a user action.

25 33. The computer-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the browser module is further configured to superimpose the full-screen browser window on the first browser window.

30 34. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after receiving a load finished event for the first browser window and before receiving an unload event for the first browser window.

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35. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window in a second browser instance distinct from a first browser instance in which the first browser window is opened.

5 36. The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the browser module is further configured to communicate information between the first and second browser windows in response to an event occurring in one of the first and second browser instances.

10 37. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the first browser window contains a plurality of frames, wherein the request to open a second browser window is associated with one of the plurality of frames, and wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after loading the frame associated with the request to open the second browser window.

15 38. The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after loading all of the frames of the first browser window.

20 39. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to suppress a request to open a dialog box until a browser window associated with the request to open the dialog box is displayed.

25 40. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to suppress generation of a sound associated with a browser window that is not displayed.

41. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to:

30 receive a request to close a browser window;
close the browser window if another browser window is open; and

ignore the request if no other browser window is open.

42. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the browser module is further configured to maintain, in a browser history, a history of transitions between the first and second browser windows.

43. The computer-readable medium of claim 42, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from a history of a displayed browser window.

44. The computer-readable medium of claim 42, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from histories of simultaneously open browser windows.

45. The computer-readable medium of claim 42, wherein the browser module is further configured to:

detect, in the browser history, a transition between two simultaneously open browser windows; and

in response to the detected transition, hide one of the first and second browser windows and displaying a different one of the first and second browser windows.

46. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable modules comprising a browser module, configured to:

receive a request to open a second browser window while a first browser window is displayed;

ignore the request if the request was initiated during either loading or unloading of a page in the first browser window; and

open the second browser window if the request was initiated after loading and before unloading of a page in the first browser window.

47. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window as a full-screen browser window if the request was initiated after loading and before unloading of a page in the first browser window.

48. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the browser module is further configured to superimpose the full-screen browser window on the first browser window.

49. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after receiving a load finished event for the first browser window and before receiving an unload event for the first browser window.

50. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window in a second browser instance distinct from a first browser instance in which the first browser window is opened.

51. The computer-readable medium of claim 50, wherein the browser module is further configured to communicate information between the first and second browser windows in response to an event occurring in one of the first and second browser instances.

52. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the first browser window contains a plurality of frames, wherein the request to open a second browser window is associated with one of the plurality of frames, and wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after loading the frame associated with the request to open the second browser window.

53. The computer-readable medium of claim 52, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after loading all of the frames of the first browser window.

5 54. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to suppress a request to open a dialog box until a browser window associated with the request to open the dialog box is displayed.

10 55. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to suppress generation of a sound associated with a browser window that is not displayed.

15 56. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to:
receive a request to close a browser window;
close the browser window if another browser window is open; and
ignore the request if no other browser window is open.

20 57. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the browser module is further configured to maintain, in a browser history, a history of transitions between the first and second browser windows.

25 58. The computer-readable medium of claim 57, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from a history of a displayed browser window.

30 59. The computer-readable medium of claim 57, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from histories of a set of simultaneously open browser windows.

60. The computer-readable medium of claim 57, wherein the browser module is further configured to:

detect, in the browser history, a transition between simultaneously open browser windows; and

in response to the detected transition, hide one of the first and second browser windows and displaying a different one of the first and second browser windows.

61. A computer system, comprising:

a graphical user interface including a display and a user interface selection device;

and

a browser module, configured to

receive a request to open a second browser window while a first browser window is displayed,

ignore the request if the request was not initiated in response to a user action, and

open the second browser window if the request was initiated in response to a user action.

62. The computer system of claim 61, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window as a full-screen browser window if the request was initiated by a user action.

63. The computer system of claim 62, wherein the browser module is further configured to superimpose the full-screen browser window on the first browser window.

64. The computer system of claim 61, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after receiving a load finished event for the first browser window and before receiving an unload event for the first browser window.

72. The computer system of claim 61, wherein the browser module is further configured to maintain, in a browser history, a history of transitions between a set of simultaneously open browser windows.

73. The computer system of claim 72, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from a history of a displayed browser window.

74. The computer system of claim 72, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from histories of the set of simultaneously open browser windows.

75. The computer system of claim 72, wherein the browser module is further configured to:

detect, in the browser history, a transition between simultaneously open browser windows; and

in response to the detected transition, hide one of the first and second browser windows and displaying a different one of the first and second browser windows.

76. A computer system, comprising:
a graphical user interface including a display and a user interface selection device;
and

a browser module, configured to

receive a request to open a second browser window while a first browser window is displayed,

ignore the request if the request was initiated during either loading or unloading of a page in the first browser window, and

open the second browser window if the request was initiated after loading and before unloading of a page in the first browser window.

77. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window as a full-screen browser window if the request was initiated after loading and before unloading of a page in the first browser window.

78. The computer system of claim 77, wherein the browser module is further configured to superimpose the full-screen browser window on the first browser window.

79. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after receiving a load finished event for the first browser window and before receiving an unload event for the first browser window.

80. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window in a second browser instance distinct from a first browser instance in which the first browser window is opened.

81. The computer system of claim 80, wherein the browser module is further configured to communicate information between the first and second browser windows in response to an event occurring in one of the first and second browser instances.

82. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the first browser window contains a plurality of frames, wherein the request to open a second browser window is associated with one of the plurality of frames, and wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after loading the frame associated with the request to open the second browser window.

83. The computer system of claim 82, wherein the browser module is further configured to open the second browser window after loading all of the frames of the first browser window.

84. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to suppress a request to open a dialog box until a browser window associated with the request to open the dialog box is displayed.

5 85. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to suppress generation of a sound associated with a browser window that is not displayed.

10 86. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to:

receive a request to close a browser window;
close the browser window if another browser window is open; and
ignore the request if no other browser window is open.

15 87. The computer system of claim 76, wherein the browser module is further configured to maintain, in a browser history, a history of transitions between a set of simultaneously open browser windows.

20 88. The computer system of claim 87, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from a history of a displayed browser window.

25 89. The computer system of claim 87, wherein the browser module is further configured to build the browser history from histories of the set of simultaneously open browser windows.

90. The computer system of claim 87, wherein the browser module is further configured to:

detect, in the browser history, a transition between simultaneously open browser windows; and

30 in response to the detected transition, hide one of the first and second browser windows and displaying a different one of the first and second browser windows.

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